

OHIOANS ARE READY FOR A NEW DIRECTION

Under the leadership of President Bush and his Republican allies in Congress, life has become more difficult for Ohioans. Here are some of the ways that life has become less affordable and secure in Ohio. Democrats are working for real security, better jobs, college access for all, energy independence, affordable health care, and retirement security. It's time for a new direction in Ohio.

INCOME: OHIOANS ARE EARNING LESS TODAY THAN THEY WERE FIVE YEARS AGO

- In 2000, the median income in Ohio was \$47,479.¹
- In 2005, the median income in Ohio was \$44,349, a drop of 6.6 percent.²

HEALTH CARE: THE NUMBER OF UNINSURED IN OHIO HAS GROWN UNDER BUSH REPUBLICANS

- In 2000, Ohio had 1,249,000 adults without insurance (11.2 percent).³
- In 2005, Ohio had 1,394,000 adults without insurance (12.3 percent).⁴
- Ohio had 216,495 children benefit from the SCHIP Program.⁵

EDUCATION: THE COST OF COLLEGE CONTINUES TO RISE IN OHIO

- In 2001, tuition at a public four-year institution in Ohio was \$10,449.⁶ In 2005, it was \$15,256, a 46 percent increase.⁷
- In 2001, tuition at a private four-year institution in Ohio was \$21,045.⁸ In 2005, it was \$25,594, a 22 percent increase.⁹
- Number of Ohioans affected by the lapse of the College Tuition Tax Deduction – 134,885.¹⁰
- Number of Ohioans affected by the lapse of the Educator Expenses Tax Deduction – 127,762.¹¹

GAS PRICES: THE HIGH COST OF GAS CONTINUES TO BE A BURDEN FOR OHIO RESIDENTS

- In 2001, the average cost of gas in Ohio was \$1.480 a gallon.¹²
- Today the average cost of gas in Ohio is \$2.147 a gallon.¹³
- In 2001, the average annual cost of gas for a household in Ohio was \$1,888.¹⁴
- Today the average annual cost of gas for a household in Ohio is \$2,739, \$851 (45 percent) more than it was in 2001.¹⁵

SOCIAL SECURITY: OHIOANS DON'T WANT AN END TO SOCIAL SECURITY

- Number of Social Security Beneficiaries in Ohio – 1,950,740¹⁶
- Average Monthly Benefit per Beneficiary in Ohio – \$883¹⁷

IRAQ, TROOPS AND VETERANS: OHIOANS ON THE FRONT LINES

- Number of Ohioans killed in Iraq – 123¹⁸
- Number of Ohioans wounded in Iraq – 868¹⁹
- Number of Ohioans killed in Afghanistan – 11²⁰
- Number of Ohioans wounded in Afghanistan – 39²¹
- Number of Veterans in Ohio – 1,051,683²²

REPUBLICANS CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR GIVEAWAYS FOR A WEALTHY MINORITY WHILE IGNORING OHIO'S MINIMUM WAGE WORKERS

- Only 931 estates in Ohio paid an Estate Tax in 2004.²³
- Only 257 estates in Ohio will benefit from the Estate Tax cut in 2009.²⁴
- In contrast, 337,000 workers in Ohio would benefit from an increase in the minimum wage.²⁵

CRIME: VIOLENT CRIME IN OHIO IS ON THE RISE

- Number of Violent Crimes in Ohio per 100,000 residents in 2000 – 334.1²⁶
- Number of Violent Crimes in Ohio per 100,000 residents in 2005 – 351.3²⁷
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2002 – 18,800,597²⁸
- Amount of COPS Funding Dispersed in 2006 – 3,840,915²⁹

TAX CUTS: BUSH TAX POLICIES BENEFIT THE WEALTHIEST OHIOANS

The Bush tax cuts have overwhelmingly benefited the wealthiest Ohioans.

- In 2001, the richest one percent of Ohio residents each received an average of \$2,127 in tax cuts, while middle class Ohio residents received only \$370.³⁰
- In 2006, the richest one percent of Ohio residents will receive an average of \$25,940 in tax cuts, while middle class Ohio residents will only receive \$705.³¹
- In 2010, under the Bush tax plan, the richest one percent of Ohio residents will each receive an average of \$55,960 in tax cuts, while middle class Ohio residents will only receive \$782.³²

The richest Ohioans receive an ever-growing share of the Bush tax cut.

- In 2001, the richest Ohioans received 5.2 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class received 18.2 percent of the tax cut.³³
- But, in 2006, the richest Ohioans will get 20.9 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 11.3 percent of the tax cut.³⁴

- And, in 2010, the richest Ohioans will get 42.3 percent of the Bush tax cut, while the middle class will get 11.8 percent of the tax cut.³⁵

Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts overwhelmingly benefit the wealthiest Ohioans.

- In 2010, the richest Ohioans will receive an average of \$7,224 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That means the richest Ohioans will be getting over 38.9 percent of all of the tax cut benefit.³⁶
- In contrast, in 2010, middle class Ohioans will receive an average of \$46 from the Bush capital gains and dividend tax cuts. That's just 4.9 percent of the benefit going to the middle class.³⁷

SOURCES

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- 14: Figure Computed from information from Census Bureau Ohio Fast Facts, EIA Ohio petroleum profiles, FHWA Data, and 9/26/06 *Fuel Gauge Report*.
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